

Wayside Points of View

Only Played Possum

HERE is that Republican Germany we have been hearing about lately? The howl over the peace terms is the howl of imperialist-militarists just realizing their defeat.—*Reedy's Mirror*.

Umpire

The trouble is Germany wants to be the umpire in the league of nations.—*Baltimore American*.

Old Adage

The German version is that you may lead an envoy to the peace table but you cannot make him sign. This version is, of course, subject to amendment without notice.—*Detroit Free Press*.

Then Beat It

It looks now as though the only course left to those German delegates is to sign the terms and then beat it as fast as they can in any direction away from Germany.—*Philadelphia Inquirer*.

Just in Time

We are all for Italy. Just when it got to look as if we could not put off turning to the atlas for the Dodecanesus Islands, Italy surrendered them to Greece.—*New York Evening Post*.

Quoting the Essayists

Korea has asked the peace conference to free her from Japan. That's our idea of what the essayists call "an incorrigible optimist."—*Kansas City Star*.

Her Scheme

Mexico doesn't want to be protected by the Monroe Doctrine. She wants some foreign power to own her, so that she can get Texas and Arizona and California, and all that.—*Tacoma Daily Ledger*.

Anybody Know?

What is the name of this "last Yank" who, Secretary Baker says, will be back in August?—*Minneapolis Journal*.

Another Blow to Autocracy



—From *The Chicago News*.

For a Longer Year

The proposal for a 13-month year has bobbed up again—this time it is sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. It doesn't seem to interest anybody but the landlords.—*Tacoma Daily Ledger*.

Another Tune

What a difference a little time makes. Last year, about this time, everybody, almost, was talking about nitrate factories and poison gas masks and such—and now, the principal topic appears to be how soon we can buy or build a home.—*Florida Times-Union*.

Consolation—I

Don't worry because your nickels and dimes won't go as far as they used to. Consider the purchasing power of the German mark.—*Birmingham Age-Herald*.

Consolation—II

The home gardeners can console themselves with the thought that this cold weather is keeping the weeds back, too.—*Boston Evening Transcript*.

The Special Session Gets Under Full Steam



An Elephant-Size Job

—*Baltimore American*.



—*New York World*.



The New Housekeeper

—*New York Tribune*.



Off to Work

—*Louisville Courier-Journal*.

The Latest Communique From Paris. Why Are They All So Happy?

BECAUSE: President Wilson's message stated:

1. Telegraph and telephone lines will be returned to their owners as soon as possible.
2. Entirely safe to remove ban upon the manufacture and sale of wines and beers.
3. There is a real community of interest between capital and labor which can be made operative only in a new organization of industry.
4. Railroads will be handed over to their owners at the end of the calendar year.
5. Every consideration of justice and of public advantage calls for immediate adoption of the suffrage amendment.



The G. O. P. Offensive

—*Chicago Tribune*.

The President Stirs Up Everyone Over July First

PROFESSIONAL Prohibitionists wonder if, with a heave from faraway Paris, President Wilson is trying to land a monkey wrench in their carefully built machinery; Congress declares the President is essaying the wily stratagem of "passing the buck" and ecclesiastics generally deplore the Presidential recommendation that Congress, if it so chooses, repeal the war-time measure declaring national prohibition upon July 1. That law, it may be remembered, says:

"After June 30, 1919, until the conclusion of the present war and thereafter until the termination of demobilization, the date of which shall be determined and proclaimed by the President of the United States . . . it shall be unlawful to sell for beverage purposes any distilled spirits."

If the President considers that demobilization is effected, why under the sun doesn't he say so? Some members of Congress in effect ask a bedlam of ebullient opinion has been generated in Washington over the tailpiece to the executorial message. It is freely pointed out that demobilization is not accomplished, and, anyhow, isn't it up to the President to say whether it is or no? A Republican and largely "dry" Congress emphatically thinks it is.

"To repeal war-time prohibition now is like giving a half-cured drug addict opium for a few months. It is such a short time before the Congressional amendment goes into effect that it would weaken its enforcement," Representative Little, of Kansas, is quoted as saying; while Senator Sherman, of Illinois, is authority for the warm statement: "Let it alone. If

that is all the President wants he had better stay in Paris where he can get it."

What Congress most resents, according to the Washington correspondent of "The New York Herald," is the President's "shifting to Congress a responsibility that he should assume. . . . He has asked the Congress to do something which he has the authority to do."

Thus, some members of the press

profess to see that the matter of prohibition is becoming hopelessly enmeshed in national politics.

The Press

The apparent indisposition of Congress to alter the July 1 law is a feeling not shared by the majority press. On many sides it is held that a six months' reprieve would be a good thing looking toward the enactment of the Eighteenth Amendment on January 16, 1920.

"The Baltimore Sun," reflecting a large part of the opinion that the President has made a suggestion that should be affirmatively acted upon, says:

"What he has to say regarding war-time prohibition will, we believe, meet with the approval of the great body of American citizens. Apparently, if Congress follows his advice, the people will be granted, not pardon from the sentence of eternal dryness, but merely a respite for the six months or so

which will elapse between July 1 and the date upon which the Federal amendment goes into effect. But this much may be said, that inasmuch as the war prohibition act was a war prohibition act ordinary justice requires that it be repealed with the end of the war conditions. And it is barely possible that if the experiment with beers and light wines is tried until January next, and successfully, and meets with public approval, and if the recommendation of the President becomes the policy of the Democratic party in connection with the liquor question, Congress might pass a law for the enforcement of the Federal

amendment which would permit the sale of beers and light wines in those states which did not themselves pass more stringent legislation. That would be a pleasing solution of the prohibition muddle, but it is probably too good to be true."

The repeal of the war-time prohibition offers a first rallying point from which to focus the will of the majority upon its representatives in Congress," declares "The New York Evening World." "Neither on July 1, 1919, nor January 16, 1920, should the manufacture and sale of light wines and beers be prohibited."

"This, we think," says "The Hartford Courant," "will prove a popular recommendation, but it will not be popular with a certain influential and powerful lobby in Washington, and it may be ignored by Congress."

"The New York Times" thinks that "if this Yankee nation has not lost its sense of humor the whole public will be amused by Mr. Wilson's suggestion that the celebrated rider to the agricultural appropriation act . . . be amended. It is for the President to determine whether demobilization has pro-

ceeded so far that 'this will be entirely safe.' If acted upon by Congress it will, for a brief season, postpone absolute privation."

On the other hand "The Springfield Republican" is of the opinion that "the President has wandered from every point of view in lending his name and influence, even to this extent, to the anti-prohibition cause, although it has never appeared in the past that he personally favored the constitutional amendment. His recommendation will not be heeded by Congress in any event. The dries control it." "Terribly unsettling," is the manner in which President Wilson's suggestion is stigmatized by "The Philadelphia Press," while "The New York Tribune" conceivably expresses the opinion of a great many persons when it says: "If adjustment must be made, July is as good a time to begin it as January."

Labor and Beer

Among the enemies of absolute prohibition may be listed Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor. In an article in "McClure's" he inveighs unreservedly against the prohibition of beer and light wines, declaring that "to stop them (the laboring men) deliberately and by force, from the use of their beer and light wine is as unjust as it would be for a crowd of vegetarians to get together and pass a law to stop you and me from eating meat."

A writer in "The World Outlook," envisaging prohibition, wonders what will take the place of the saloon or "poor man's club," and writes an article under the caption "Instead of John Barleycorn."

Motion picture theatres, cheap but first rate eating houses, public drinking fountains and "comfort stations," lectures and amateur theatricals, etc., are suggested as substitutes that will help.

The "movie" is already accredited with being the saloon's "greatest rival."

:-: The Week at Home :-:

THE NC-1, the navy airship that made the 'cross-Atlantic flight accident, left Horta, where she lighted at the end of the flight, and went on to Ponta Delgada in the air, accomplishing the 150 miles in one hour and forty minutes, faster flying than she had done at any previous time on the voyage. After reaching Ponta Delgada, however, though ready at any minute to take the air, she was weatherbound by a heavy gale, which raised a choppy sea, making it impossible for the NC-4 to leave the water. As this was written, the direction of the wind at Ponta Delgada was reported to be changing to the northeast, and it was expected the sea would soon be smooth enough for the navy flier to get away on the route to Lisbon.

All the American fliers got safely as far as the Azores. The crew of the NC-1 was brought into Horta by the steamship *Lania*, but the 'plane itself sank while being towed into port by the destroyer *Fairfax*, one of the patrolling fleet. Commander Towers taxied into Ponta Delgada with the NC-3 under its own power, beating the NC-4 to the objective by a day. The NC-3 had been lost in the fog for fifty-two hours and had travelled 205 miles on the water. The lower planes were badly damaged

by the heavy seas and the seams of the boat were opened. Two men were kept constantly busy with the hand pump, keeping the machine afloat. None of the men had more than four hours' sleep. They lived on chocolate and smoked heavily to keep awake. It was at first hoped that the NC-3 would be able to continue the journey to Lisbon with the NC-4, but after an opportunity to look over the damage Commander Towers said it would take a force of 100 mechanics three months to get the airship in condition to fly again, and work was begun of dismantling her to ship her back to America.

Hawker

The British entry, Harry Hawker, the Australian flier, was lost at sea with Commander Mackenzie Grieve, his pilot. On learning that the NC-4 had reached the Azores Hawker and Grieve, who had been waiting on the weather for six weeks, "topped" off from St. John's, Newfoundland, in a *Boeing* single engine biplane for a direct, non-stop flight to Ireland in the attempt to beat the Americans in the ultimate landing on European soil. They were not seen and nothing was heard from them after they disappeared from the sight of the watchers on Newfoundland, although for several hours at the time they were due to reach the other side there were reports of their having been seen approaching

the coast of Ireland at distances varying from 500 to 30 miles. Later opinion was that they must have fallen into the sea only a short distance from Newfoundland. Captain Frederick P. Raynham and Captain W. C. Morgan, who attempted to take off from Newfoundland in a *Martinsyde* machine immediately in the wake of Hawker and Grieve, were wrecked before they got over the sea. The machine was smashed, but Raynham and Morgan were only slightly hurt.

Lord Northcliffe authorized "The Daily Mail" to divide the \$50,000 prize offered for the 'cross-Atlantic flight between Mrs. Hawker and her baby daughter and the next of kin to Commander Grieve in the proportion in which Hawker and Grieve had agreed to share the prize money between them. The prize offer of \$50,000 was renewed by "The Daily Mail" under the same conditions as governed the Hawker-Grieve flight.

Congress Again

Congress met in special session of the Sixty-sixth Congress Monday. Both houses were organized by the Republicans. In the Senate the Republicans, with a majority of two, elected Senator Cummins, of Iowa, president pro tempore. The organization of the Senate proceeded smoothly on the floor under the guidance of Senator Lodge, floor leader, but a hitch developed in the naming of the Committee on Committees. Sen-

ator Lodge appointed Senators Borah and Johnson, of California, as the Progressive members of the committee, but both Borah and Johnson refused the appointments, saying that it had been agreed by the Progressives that Senators Jones, of Washington, and Kenyon, of Iowa, should be the Progressive members of the committee. Senator Lodge afterward named Senators McNary, Oregon, and Gronna, North Dakota, for the Progressives and they accepted.

The Republican majority of thirty-nine in the House elected Representative Frederick H. Gillett, of Massachusetts, Speaker. The House refused to seat Victor L. Berger, the Milwaukee Socialist leader, convicted under the espionage act.

Mr. Wilson's Message

The President's message, cabled from Paris, was read on Tuesday. The President advocated the repeal of war-time prohibition on the manufacture and sale of light wines and beers, said he would return the railroads to their owners at the end of 1919 and discussed the labor situation at great length, but without offering any definite recommendations.

There was an immediate storm of disapproval of the proposition to repeal war-time prohibition. Dry leaders in both the Senate and House declared it would be impossible to get wet legislation through Con-

gress, and a canvass of the two houses showed that the dries would win in the Senate by more than a two-thirds majority, and in the House by more than a three-fourths majority. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, of which the President is an elder, and the Northern Baptist Convention both adopted resolutions condemning the President's message on war-time prohibition and protesting against repeal. There was a chorus of protest from dries all over the country.

The House passed the suffrage amendment for the second time by a vote of 304 to 89. The amendment is now expected to go to the Senate early next month and suffragists say they are certain of victory. The Republican majority in the House passed the war risk insurance deficiency bill in fifty minutes and washed its hands of all further responsibility for delay in the payment of family allowances and separation allowances. The Senate has still to act. No delay is looked for there, but the payment of back allowances cannot begin until President Wilson has signed the bill.

Died Last Week

Bishop David Hummel Greer, of the Diocese of New York, died on Monday in St. Luke's Hospital, following an operation for intestinal trouble performed a week before. Bishop Greer was seventy-six years old. The body lay in state in the

Cathedral of St. John until the funeral on Friday, when it was placed in the crypt of the cathedral. Vinson Walsh McLean, the \$100,000,000 baby, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward B. McLean and heir to the estates of Thomas F. Walsh, the Colorado Millionaire, and John R. McLean, was run over and killed in Washington by an automobile driven by a woman and containing three women passengers. The car got away before it was identified.

Miscellaneous

The finance committee of the International Mercantile Marine Company approved the sale to British interests for \$130,000,000 of eighty-five ships of the company, with an aggregate tonnage of 950,000. It was announced that the company would retain its American and Belgian vessels and the policy would be to build up the American fleet.

John Armstrong Chaloner got a verdict for \$30,000 in his libel suit against "The Evening Post." Chaloner said his subconscious instinct had told him the verdict would be in the neighborhood of \$40,000.

The United States Employment Service announced that reports from eighty-seven cities showed a slight improvement in the unemployment situation for the week that ended May 17. New York was the city with the largest quota of unemployed, the number being estimated at from 125,000 to 200,000.